



Water Wonders

Overview:

Clean water is one of our most valuable natural resources. During this program your students will learn about the importance of water and how we can help keep waterways healthy. Through water testing, comparing data and learning to assess water quality by looking at the animals that live in our ponds your students will become the scientists. This is an engaging hands on program.

Purpose:

To understand the importance water plays in our lives and how we can help maintain healthy waterways.

General Objectives:

To give students the knowledge to . . .

1. explain the role water plays in our everyday lives and how our actions affect water resources.
2. discuss point and non-point source pollution. .
3. understand how humans can influence the natural environment.
4. identify macroinvertebrate life, test for dissolved oxygen, nitrates, phosphates, ph, turbidity and understand and explain the significance of each.
5. identify ways we can take positive environmental action.

Wisconsin's Environmental Education Model Academic Standards:

1. Standard D.8.5 Explain how personal actions can impact an environmental issue
2. Standard B.8.19 Distinguish between point and non-point source pollution
3. Standard B.8.10 Explain and cite examples of how humans shape the environment
4. Standard C.8.2 Use environmental monitoring techniques such as observation, chemical analysis and computer mapping software to collect data about environmental problems.
5. Standard C.8.2 Identify two or more ways to take positive environmental action eg. posters, letters, speeches

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During their visit to Woodland Dunes the students will become the scientists as they search for macro-invertebrate life, and evaluate and compare the water quality of two ponds. They will also have the opportunity to interact with a small model city, where they will learn about water pollution and how our lives directly affect and are affected by water.

During the second part of the field trip your students will explore a wetland ecosystem where they will learn about the importance of wetlands, use a dichotomous key to identify vegetation, look for animal life and study wetland soils. To finish our wetland exploration, we will demonstrate the role wetlands play in helping to clean and store water.

During their travels your group will be divided into smaller groups to increase the opportunity for interaction for each student. The group will be guided by a trained teacher naturalist. We ask that you bring at least one adult for every 10 students and have your class divided ahead of time into groups of about 10. Groups with more than 40 students should be divided into four groups.